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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

2082 4

21

17 FEB 1948

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 14th February, 1948.

R. 14th " " 19.40 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 367 Secret.

Addressed to Washington No.87 (Washington please
pass to UKDEL. as my No.392).
Repeated to S. of S.

Your telegram No.88 repeated to the Foreign Office
as No.499.

Advance Party of the Commission Secretariat.

I suggest a reply to the effect that the points
made in the Commission's official letter have been noted
by the Palestine Government which will do everything
possible to facilitate the work of the Party.

2. With regard to accommodation and security (see
point 14 and paragraph 2 of your telegram), I should be
glad to know as soon as possible whether an officer is
coming in advance as suggested by you to Bunche. It would
be as well if the actual date of arrival of party in
Palestine were not (repeat not) publicized, but I imagine
that this may not be possible.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
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Reference:-

FO 371 / 68533

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Cypher/OTP

F I L 2090

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

13 FEB 1948

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 451

D. 3.10 p.m. 12th February 1948.

12th February 1948.

R. 9.27 p.m. 12th February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington (Saving)

IMMEDIATE
SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office for Colonial Office telegram No. 451 of February 12th., repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Colonial Office telegram Brief No. 36 repeated to Jerusalem - Food supplies.

On 3rd February a memorandum was submitted to the Commission giving answers to questions B(10) and (11) on the basis of your telegram No. 459 (of 2nd February) and of paragraph 2 of Jerusalem telegram No. 268 (repeated to Colonial Office as No. 250).

2. In particular, this memorandum contained the following statement:

[Begins]

"The present position as regards food stocks is reported to be satisfactory but security considerations are increasing the difficulties of distribution. In particular, great difficulty is being experienced in the local production and distribution of flour as a result of train robberies, attacks on road transport, and for other reasons. The flour mills at Haifa were recently closed for three days as the streets were unsafe for traffic. In these circumstances, the Government of Palestine have come to the conclusion that so far as may be possible, local production of adulterated standard flour should be temporarily suspended and replaced by deliveries of imported wheat-flour direct from ship to distribution centres. This would obviate present dependence on local milling facilities and would result in economies in handling and transport. It should also be pointed out that as Palestine flour mills are mostly Jewish-owned, the Arab population is dependent on Jewish mills for at least

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50% of its flour requirements and that as withdrawal approaches it will be increasingly difficult to ensure distribution to Arab consumers of flour produced in Jewish mills. The Government of Palestine have, therefore, asked that the Ministry of Food in the United Kingdom should try to ensure that all cereal shipments effected prior to the date of the termination of the Mandate should be in the form of wheat-flour, at the rate of 13,000 tons per month. The possibility of complying with this request is being considered in the United Kingdom but it must be pointed out that if it is found possible to do this, it will add considerably to the cost of such imports".

[Ends].

3. Figures quoted in paragraph 3 of Foreign Office telegram No. 459 were given to the Commission and it was also stated as follows:

[Begins]

"(a) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will maintain existing sponsorship, procurement and shipping of food and fertiliser supplies for Palestine which will be required up to the date of the termination of the Mandate.

(b) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will accept no direct responsibility for sponsorship, procurement and shipment of supplies which may be required subsequent to that date.

(c) Within the limitations of these decisions, His Majesty's Government are anxious to give all possible assistance to ensure that the continuity of food supplies for Palestine is maintained, and it is suggested that it might be of assistance to the Commission in assessing the present supply position and in making their arrangements to take over the responsibility of food supplies for Palestine, if they were to send a representative to the United Kingdom so that he could consult with the Ministry of Food and obtain all the necessary information from the Ministry's various commodity divisions".

[Ends].

4. On 10th February, a further letter was sent to the Commission forwarding the schedule enclosed in Jerusalem telegram No. 64 Saving (of 29th January) and saying "you will appreciate that the commodities referred

to

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En Clair

13
E 2146
DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE. 14 FEB 1948

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 486

D. 1.58 p.m. 13th February 1948

R. 8 p.m. 13th February 1948.

13th February 1948.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to High Commissioner Jerusalem telegram No. 95 of February 13th repeated for information to Foreign Office for Colonial Office and Saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

I have received from the Commission without (repeat without) comment the text of a telegraphic message received by Lisicky from the Central Union of Landlords of Tel Aviv.

2. [Begins].

"Doctor Lisicky: United Nations Palestine Commission New York. British army continuing unjust dangerous action exploding houses belonging innocent landlords for alleged acts unknown persons uncontrolled by latters. Practice threatening spread all over country. Pray immediate despatch Commission Palestine inquire check illegal ruinous action army. Central Union Landlords Shoshany Chairman"

[Ends].

Please pass Immediate to Jerusalem and to Colonial Office.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

V V V

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141

E

16

E 2188

1948

PALESTINE

16 FEB 1948

Registry Number E2188/4/11

TELEGRAM FROM

No. 11 K X 1

Dated New York

Received in Registry 501
14 Feb
16

Political food supplies
Refer Palestine tel 354. Commence food supply
agreement with London by 11 Feb. do not propose
discussing further with Commence with
matter. Some information contained in telegram
will be conveyed to Ruderan and Shureck
as usual in London.

Last Paper.

2171

(Minutes.)

H.B. 11/2

References.

G.P.P. tel 587 15/2
P'line tel 488 27/2

JB mar 10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 Jehen M15
1 Waltham CV
Sherman bot off
M.F. 3a
no 4
act. by
G.M.
Feb 18

(Action completed.)

9 Feb 17/2

(Index.)

158
20/1/48

Next Paper.

2207

30471 F.O.P

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E 17

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CYPHER/OIP

FILES

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 2780

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

16 FEB 1948

No. 501. D: 2.51 p.m. 14th February, 1948.
14th February, 1948. R: 8.55 p.m. 14th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,
Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE

Addressed Foreign Office for Colonial Office telegram No. 501 of 14th February repeated Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

SECRET

Jerusalem telegram to Colonial Office No. 354 (repeated here as No. BRIEF 376): food supplies.

As Commission's food supply experts will be in London by Monday February 16th we do not (repeat not) propose to communicate further with the Commission in this matter and presume you will convey information contained in telegram referred to above to Reedman and Neumark on arrival in London.

2. Grateful for indication in due course of any arrangements that may be made.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 96.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section for transmission to Jerusalem]

@@@

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RECEIVED
FEB 16 1948

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

19

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.F.)

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 15th February, 1948. 14.45 hrs.

URGENT

No. 587 Secret.

Following from HMDEL New York to Foreign Office No. 501 of 14th February for Colonial Office repeated Palestine as No. 96 and a telegram to Washington, begins.

Jerusalem telegram to Colonial Office No. 354 repeated here as No. BRIEF 376.

Food supplies.

As Commission's Food Supply Experts will be in London by Monday February 16th we do not repeat nor propose to communicate further with the Commission in this matter and presume you will convey information contained in telegram referred to above to Readman and Edmund on arrival in London.

2. Grateful for indication in due course of any arrangements that may be made. Rode.

Circulated to:-

Secretary of State.
Sir F. Lloyd.
Mr. Ross Williams.
Sir G. Jeffrey.
Sir S. Gains.
Mr. Eastwood.
Mr. Poynton.
Mr. Rogers.
Mr. Galsworthy.
Mr. Bennett.
Mr. Ian Watt.
Mr. Blackburne.
Colonial Attaché.
Mr. Collins.
Mr. Bagg.
Accounts Branch.
Mr. Kaldor.
Mr. M.J.
Mr. S.K. Martin.
Mr. Dale.
Mr. Crawford Smith.
Mr. Rathbone.
Mr. Guter.
Mr. Horner.
Ca. 342.

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142

E

20

1948

PALESTINE

E 2207

17 FEB 1948

Registry Number E2207/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

UK 1

New York

517

16 Feb

17

Forward to the of Jerusalem
through list of requested will bring it
stated that US Govt. would give a memorandum
of copy one of five a decision of Jerusalem. This
week a letter suggests a certain number of
copy of Palestine a Department of State
sources of State Dept.

Last Paper.

2188

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

5 Watherson 80
1 Sherman Baboff
Schert 2115

M.I. 3a

M04

Admky

AW

Feb 17

Tel. New York 778

Feb 19

P.T.O

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

PL
G.C. 20/2

~~Handwritten marks~~

Next Paper.

2228

(Minutes.)

The last sentence shows that illusions
about our attitude are dying hard.

The C.O. will presumably consult us on
the answer to para. 5, after tomorrow's meeting
of Ministers in Jerusalem. Meanwhile, should
we bring the S/S in case this telegram is
discussed at that meeting?

H. Beeley 17/2

Tel. to N.Y.

H.B. 19/2

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111111

8. De laud
7. J.M. Martin, 20
E.P. Hannon PRO
Feb 20

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21
E

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Cypher/OTP

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations 1943)

No. 517

D. 1.22 p.m. 16th February, 1948

R. 7.00 p.m. 16th February, 1948.

16th February, 1948
Repeated Jerusalem,
Washington Saving,

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

BUILD

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 517 of 16th February repeated to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Burns.

I had a long talk with Gerig last night and he informed me that United States would agree to appointment as Governor of Jerusalem of any of the following five persons:

- (A) Colonel Hodgson
- (B) General Laverack
- (C) Casey of Australia
- (D) Ramaswami Mudalier of India
- (E) Stucki of Switzerland.

2. United States would object to Lisicky because of his nationality (although he is considered otherwise suitable) and would similarly oppose any other candidate from Eastern Europe.

3. Gerig understands that Canadian Government will oppose appointment of any Canadian citizen.

4. Gerig believes French Delegation wish to suggest appointment of French catholic but does not know name.

5. Please telegraph early comments on five names mentioned in paragraph 1 above. Presume general objection to Dominions candidate would not apply so strongly to Indian.

6. It is clear that Gerig believes there is strong chance of Palestine question being referred back to Assembly for further consideration and he envisages possibility of International Control of whole of Palestine through Trusteeship Council on lines proposed for Jerusalem. For this reason he considers we must select Governor of Jerusalem man capable of assuming control of entire country. Incidentally he assumed that British would agree to remain on in Palestine until new arrangements could be settled.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 98.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem].

uuuuu

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Registry No.

XXXXXX
Secret.
XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

Draft. ~~IMMEDIATE~~

UKDEL

NEW YORK

Telegram.

No. 775 ~~BUILD~~

(Date) 7/11/46

Repeat to:-

JERUSALEM AND
WASHINGTON 2011

~~By Cable~~
Cypher.

Distribution:-

Trustworthy

Copies to:-

C.O. : *J. H. Martin*

C.R.O. : *E. B. Shannon*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.A.S.

22
CYPHER
R.O.
1946

Send
Build Despatched *6.15 P.M.*
Address to UK Delegation New York telegram
no. 778 of 19 Feb requested for information to
Washington and Jerusalem.
Following for Burns from Martin.

Your telegram No. 517. Governor of Jerusalem. As whole subject is at present under consideration by Ministers we are not in a position to suggest any reply which you could give to Gerig at this stage. We shall do so as soon as possible. Meanwhile, for your private information, for various reasons none of candidates suggested by Gerig is regarded as ~~serious~~ *a starter here* *Agua... information on... that...*
~~... in... with...~~
~~... can be settled... of course~~
~~...~~

H.B. 189
12

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

FO 371 / 68533

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Cypher/OTP
SECRET

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 778 D. 2.40 p.m. 19th February, 1948
19th February, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington No. 2011

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

BUILD

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 778 of 19th February repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 517.

Following for Burns from Martin.

Governor of Jerusalem. As whole subject is at present under consideration by Ministers we are not in a position to suggest any reply which you could give to Gerig at this stage. We shall do so as soon as possible. Meanwhile, for your private information, for various reasons none of candidates suggested by Gerig is regarded as a starter here.

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E

24

1948

PALESTINE

E 2228

17 FEB 1948

Registry Number

E2228/4/31

FROM

Prof P

No.

Minute

Dated

to Prime Minister

Received in Registry

12 Feb

17 -

City of Jerusalem, Security after abandonment
without gist of conversation with Mr
Williams re H.M.G. attitude to the problem
of protecting the city of Jerusalem after the
withdrawal of British troops.

Last Paper.

2207

(Minutes.)

References.

G.P.P. Humphrey N° 10 to Mr. [unclear] 15/2

H.B. 17/12

D.B. 1/4

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature]

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

2262

26513 F.O.P.

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(Draft minute to the Prime Minister
from the Secretary of State).

E 22.28
17 FEB 1948

Jerusalem.

I discussed with Mr. Rees-Williams this afternoon the problem of protecting the city of Jerusalem after the withdrawal of British troops. Mr. Rees-Williams pointed out that, according to the United Nations' plan for Palestine, the special regime for Jerusalem will not come into operation until the 1st October. The British Mandate terminates on 15th May, and British Troops will have left Jerusalem by the end of May. Even if we can assume that the United Nations regime could be smoothly established in October, there would thus be an interval of four months in which no provision was made for the security of the city and the Holy Places.

2. We agreed to recommend to you that H.M. Government should initiate an attempt to persuade Arabs and Jews to treat Jerusalem as an open city and thus to isolate it from the fighting which will almost inevitably take place in Palestine after our departure. If you agree, we might begin by approaching the Arab Governments with this suggestion, pointing out to them that any Arab violence in Jerusalem would tend to alienate the sympathy of the Christian world from their cause.

3. The next step would be for the Colonial Secretary to inform the Security Council that we had been giving thought to this problem, and to propose that they should follow up our action with the Arab Governments by passing a resolution in favour of the treatment of Jerusalem as an open city and by using their influence with all parties concerned to that end.

4. It is not at present clear what form of administration in Jerusalem would stand the best chance of being respected and so

of/

H. Bealey 10/2
J.A. & R. Howard
16.2

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RECEIVED IN C.B.
18 FEB 1948
SENT 10A 1948

of maintaining the concept of an open city. The most natural course would be for the Security Council to authorise the Trusteeship Council to appoint the U.N. Governor immediately and to set up the special regime (with an international security force) immediately after our departure instead of waiting until the 1st October. It is, however, not certain how the Arabs would react to this proposal. If they were to say that they would be willing to regard Jerusalem as an open city on condition that it was not placed under U.N. administration, but not otherwise, alternative methods of administering the city pending a general settlement in Palestine would have to be considered. It is possible that both sides would accept the idea of an open city and would indicate their preference for some form of interim government involving the retention of a British element. Such agreement between Arabs and Jews might make it possible for H.M.G. to accept an arrangement on these lines.

3. In suggesting that we should propose the declaration of Jerusalem as an open city, we are thinking not in terms of the present municipality, from which many of the Holy places are excluded, but of the somewhat larger area for which a special regime is provided in the U.N. plan.

Ernest Bevin

12/ii/48

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Representatives to make whatever use they wished of the material in these documents, subject to the necessary exceptions, in their general contacts on the subject of Palestine with the Governments to which they are accredited.

H. Bealey
18th February, 1948.

This originally arose from a request by Dr Samah when he was here.

I agree with Mr Bealey

BAB

19.2

MUL

20.2

Mr. Bealey

Draft letter C.O. concurs in text as amended

H. Bealey 24/2

sent

BAB

25/2

J.P.P. J.M. Warton P.O. to M. Wright 75872/119/11 Pt 11 20/2

S. Balpan 2/3

H.B. 27/3

Tel. Cairo 307
Bagdad 204
Izdda 121
Beirut 134
Damascus 112
Amman 118
Rtd, UKtel 889
W'Yan 225-8
RMK-O 175
25 Feb

S. Matheson 60
Hermon Bab off
Scherr M11
Adank
AM
M13a
M104

MAR 13/2

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Registry
No. E2262/4/31

~~Top Secret.~~
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
~~Open.~~

CYPHER 29

23rd February 1948.

~~IMPORTANT~~
~~SECRET~~
GIANT.

Despatched M.

Draft.
Cairo, Bagdad, 204
Jedda, Beirut, 154
Damascus, Amman,
B.M.E.O. 418.

Telegram.

No.

(Date) 25/2/48.

Repeat to:-

U.K. Delegation,
New York. 259.
Washington, 250
Jerusalem.
BME0175.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

These documents should not be communicated to Arab Govts but

H. Bealey 2/2

~~EX-COMM~~
~~SECRET~~
Cypher.

Distribution:-

World Organisation

Should the necessity arise, you may

Otherwise you have discretion to draw if necessary on the copies to material in

Pub. circulation

Addressed to Cairo, telegram No. 307 of 25th Feb. ~~to~~ Bagdad, Jedda, Beirut, and Amman, B.M.E.O., repeated for information to U.K. Delegation New York, Washington and Jerusalem.

Sir A Cadogan is forwarding to you two copies of each of the documents which he has presented to the United Nations Palestine Commission in New York.

2. ~~These~~ should be of assistance to you in your contacts concerning Palestine with the Government to which you are accredited. In conversation you may ^{if the necessity arises} make use of the information contained in ^(any of) these ^{documents} ~~circumstances~~ with certain exceptions. Thus the plan of military withdrawal in document No P(MY) 4, and the confidential communication to the Commission in P(MY) 16 are, of course, for your own information only. The last sentence of

P (MY) 14 is obviously unsuitable for communication to Arab Governments. ~~Otherwise I leave~~ ^{at your discretion as the matter is to your discretion the use.} You may find it desirable to make ~~of~~ the substance of Nos.

P(MY) 1 to P(MY) 17 inclusive. ^{you should} await instructions before making any ^{similar} use of later numbers in the series.

[Cairo only] please pass to BME0 17525.

BAB
25/2

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Cypher/OTP.

No. E 2262/4/37.

Secret.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CAIRO.

No. 307.

D. 4.0 a.m. 26th February 1948.

25th February 1948.

AND ALSO TO: BAGDAD, NO.204;
JEDDA, NO.121;
BEIRUT, NO.134;
DAMASCUS, NO.112;
AMMAN, NO.118.

Repeated to: New York (U.K. Delegation), No.889;
Washington, No.2258;
Jerusalem;
B.M.E.C. Cairo, No.175.

IMPORTANT.

SECRET.

GIANT.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.307 of 25th February, Bagdad, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus and Amman; repeated for information to B.M.E.C. Cairo, United Kingdom Delegation New York, Washington and Jerusalem.

Sir A. Cadogan is forwarding to you two copies of each of the documents which he has presented to the United Nations Palestine Commission in New York.

2. These documents should not be communicated to Arab Governments but should be of assistance to you in your contacts concerning Palestine with the Government to which you are accredited. In conversation you may if the necessity arises make use of the information contained in any of these documents with certain exceptions. Thus the plan of military withdrawal in document No.P(NY) 4, and the confidential communication to the Commission in No.P(NY) 16 are, of course, for your own information only. The last sentence of No.P(NY) 14 is obviously unsuitable for communication to Arab Governments. Otherwise you have discretion to draw if necessary on the material in Nos. P(NY) 1 to P(NY) 17 inclusive. You should await instructions before making any similar use of later numbers in the series.

[Cairo only]. Please pass to B.M.E.C.
No. 17525.

W:W:W:W

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<p>♀</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E224, /G</p> <p>32</p>
<p>E224 / 4/31/9</p> <p>F.O. Minute</p> <p>Mr. Dudley</p> <p>Dated 24 Jan</p>	<p>Attitudes of U.K., U.S.A., & U.S.S.R. to the <u>Palestine</u> question</p>	
<p>Last Paper</p> <p>E2160</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p>	
<p>References</p> <p>E1008/393/65</p> <p>E1090/2/31</p>	<p>Miss Beins</p> <p>Feb 18</p> <p>H.B. 18/2</p>	
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p>		
<p>(Action completed)</p> <p>15/1/2</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p>11/3</p>	
<p>Next Paper</p>		

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17
Information - Policy
Dept
17 Carlton House
Terrace

ER221

Mr Wright 4.50 pm
27/11

I attach a note prepared
in this Department which
may be helpful in connection
with the points on which
Mr Lawson spoke to you
on the telephone a
few minutes ago.

Atkinson
27/11

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Registry
No.

H. B.

Draft.
U.K. Delegation,
New York.

Telegram.

No. 814

Dated. 21.2 Feb

Repeat Warkins

2088
2088

H. B. Bealey 21/12

Cypher
Prisco

B. H. Z. Morrow
21.2

MTL Wright
21.2

Dept al

Copy C.O.

1.30 P
V

³⁹
CYPHER
February, 1948
Despatched 3. 5. 48 P.M.

IMMEDIATE
~~SECRET~~

Addressed to U.K. Delegation,
New York, No. 814 of February 21/1948
for info to Washington
Following for Colonial Secretary

from Secretary of State.
Colonial Secretary's
I think you should know that your

press conference of the 18th February
has been reported here in a way which
represents him as
might suggest that you were advocating

enforcement action by the Security
Council in Palestine. I hope this
interpretation has not been put upon ^{his} ~~your~~
remarks by the American press. If there
are any signs of this, you will no
doubt take a suitable opportunity of
emphasising that our attitude towards
proposals for enforcement is one of
undeviating neutrality.

BABS
21.2

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 876

February 25th, 1948.

D. 2.50 p.m. February 25th, 1948.

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

My telegram No. 814.

Presumably as a result of the report mentioned in my telegram under reference, six Labour members have put down the following motion:-

"That this House welcomes the statement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the necessity for an international force to support the authority of the Palestine Commission when British forces are withdrawn; and urges that His Majesty's Government should offer to hand over their military installations and accumulations of military stores of every kind in Palestine, for the use and equipment of this international force".

2. May we have text or summary of the Colonial Secretary's Press Conference.

SSSSS

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E

43

E 2320

18 FEB 1948

Registry Number E2320/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

U.K. 1
New York
543
17 Feb
18

U.N. Commission Report.
Provisional summary of Commission's final
Special Report to Security Council dated
11 Feb.

Last Paper.

2281

(Minutes)

References.

In P.P. Referred 429 21/2

H23. 29/2

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(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

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Schem M15
M12a
M04
Admly
Q.M. Feb 18
on E2320

(Action completed.)

J. G. 1/3

(Index.)

20/11/48

Next Paper.

2323

30471 F.O.P

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- 2 -

its objectives by threats and acts of violence including armed incursions into Palestine territory.

(b) Irresponsible acts of violence by certain Jewish elements tending to worsen security situation notwithstanding general support of plan by Jewish community in Palestine.

(c) Complications arising from fact that mandatory power which retains responsibility for law and order until termination of mandate is engaged in liquidation of its administration and preparation for military evacuation.

6. Section III dealing with security situation on termination of mandate summarises policy announced by mandatory power as regards:

(a) Exclusive responsibility for law and order and defence against aggression until termination of mandate.

(b) Arms ammunition or military equipment not to be supplied to any individual or organisation in Palestine except certain police forces.

(c) Formation of militias as envisaged in Assembly resolution not to be allowed before termination of mandate.

(d) Intentions of mandatory power as announced to Commission in respect of:

(I) British armed forces and their rôle after May 15th.

(II) Arab Legion.

(III) Palestine Police Force, its equipment arms and stores.

(IV) Recently organised Mishmar and Arab Municipal Police (Commission refers to possibility that armed Arab municipal force may prove hostile to Commission and oppose implementation of plan).

7. Section IV covers problem of security with special reference to militias. Principal points are:

(a) Commission is determined to make every possible effort to seek co-operation of Palestine Arabs.

(b) Nevertheless attitude of Arab Higher Committee must be faced and Commission would not, in practice, be able to set up provisional councils of government in Arab State or establish Arab militia.

(c) Unless Commission can go to Palestine well in advance of termination of mandate "possibility of exhausting every effort to consult with Arabs will be lost".

/(d)

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(d) According to Jewish Agency establishment of Jewish militia before termination of mandate would be technically possible but refusal of mandatory power to allow prior formation will entail delay in implementation of plan and renders more difficult problem of security of Jewish State after May 15th.

(e) It will be contrary to United Nations plan for Commission to use Jewish militia for preventive or retaliatory action beyond border of Jewish State however necessary.

(f) If power in Arab area should be seized by hostile forces provisions of plan in regard to both Arab State and economic union will be unfulfilled and establishment of Jewish State and of Jerusalem international régime gravely jeopardised.

(g) If exercise of Commission's authority cannot extend to areas of both States and Jerusalem an entirely new situation arises to which Commission draws attention of Security Council.

8. Section V on City of Jerusalem stresses:

(a) Impossibility of defending area if British security forces are not replaced by another non-Palestinian force.

(b) World-wide repercussions of communal strife in Jerusalem.

(c) Effect on United Nations prestige of failure to preserve peace.

(d) To invite militia of either state to defend Jerusalem would be contrary to United Nations plan and might provoke religious war.

9. Section VI on provisions of plan which cannot be fulfilled without assistance of an armed force refers to impossibility of delimiting boundaries in face of refusal of protection by British security forces on ground that such protection would be tantamount to implementation of plan. Commission could not consider delimitation relying "on security force of one party only." Similarly its work that of [sic] members of Preparatory Economic Commission and staff and their freedom of action cannot depend exclusively on protection received from one side.

10. Section VII. Implications for the Commission of the security problem on date of termination of mandate. Except in areas still under British military occupation there would be no legal armed force other than totally inadequate local Arab or Jewish Police for maintenance of law and order and no legally constituted overall security organisation in either State. Commission would therefore be required to step into a "security vacuum" in the very midst of intensification of internecine

/warfare

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warfare following cessation of British responsibility for law and order and civil administration. Commission has approached mandatory power to determine whether adequate preparatory steps may be taken to enable militia envisaged in plan to undertake responsibility for law and order immediately following termination of mandate. If policy of mandatory power does not permit this, armed organisations in both communities will continue to recruit and on termination of mandate "more or less disciplined and unified underground forces will abruptly emerge as security forces and probably be arrayed against each other in organised combat".

11. Schedule to be followed in evacuation of British troops is another vital factor in security problem. In Commission's view military evacuation should take place "with particular regard for significance of adjacent frontiers in the matter of security in such manner as to ensure that substantial areas in both Arab and Jewish zones will be free of British armed forces at the time of termination of mandate and to the extent possible on basis of equal consideration for Arab and Jewish zones alike". Commission has not yet taken up this special aspect of security problem with mandatory power.

12. Section VIII headed "Conclusion" sums up Commission's position. For reasons set out in report Commission has decided to refer to Security Council "problem of providing that armed assistance which alone would enable Commission to discharge its responsibilities on termination of mandate because it is convinced that there is no step which it can take under resolution of Assembly to improve security situation in Palestine between now and termination of mandate." Compelling need is emphasised for prompt action in order to avert bloodshed and assist implementation of plan. "A basic issue of international order is involved. A dangerous and tragic precedent will have been established if force, or threat of force, is to prove an effective deterrent to the will of the United Nations." Hence considered view of Commission is that "security forces of mandatory power must on withdrawal be replaced by an adequate non-Palestinian force which will assist law-abiding elements in both Arab and Jewish communities organised under general direction of Commission in maintaining order and security in Palestine and thereby enabling the Commission to carry out the recommendations of the General Assembly." Without this assistance the Commission is firmly convinced it cannot discharge the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Assembly.

Please repeat Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 104.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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39
W

INWARD TELEGRAM.
TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

E 2320 / 4 / 11

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 21st February, 1943.
R. 21st " " 10.45 AM.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 489 Top Secret.

Addressed to United Kingdom Legation No. 450
(Washington please pass)
Repeated to S. of S.

Reference No. 106, paragraph 7(c).

It would appear that the Commission do not appreciate that all higher control of Arabs in Palestine is being exercised outside the country. One active member of Arab Higher Committee now here is (Dr.) Khalidi, who is mainly concerned with health and welfare services. No member of the Arab Higher Committee or indeed any Arab other body will give any decision without first referring to the Mufti. Armed bands which have entered from other countries are being controlled from the countries from which they came. It is difficult therefore to see how the arrival of the Commission in Palestine will in advance of termination of the Mandate enable them to consult with any Arabs that matter. Although I cannot hold out such hope, it would seem that their best approach would be through the Arab Government and the Arab League before they are set up. Once they come and disturbances caused by their coming have started, matters will be in the hands of such men as Mufti.

Paragraph 10. I have not yet grasped what the Commission have in mind regarding the militia or how they suppose their formation will prevent and not assist trouble. It is stated in the last sentence of this paragraph. My only objection is to doubt that staff working here on that will do anything to help, and also the exact meaning of paragraph 11, which, unless it means the cessation of programme, evacuation before the Mandate terminates.

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RECEIVED H.O.B.

24 FEB 1913

SENT TO DEPT.

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Secretary of State
Sir T. Lloyd
Mr. Rees-Williams
Sir S. Caine
Sir C. Jeffries
Mr. Holding
Mr. Martin
Mr. Trafford Smith
Mr. Gutch
Mr. Mathieson
Mr. Higham
Mr. Galsworthy
Mr. Holmer
Mr. Dale
Cabinet Offices
" "
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Ministry of Defence
Treasury
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Admiralty
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" "
War Office
" "
" " (M.O.4.)
Ministry of Transport
" "
Air Ministry
" "
Foreign Office
" "
" "
M.I.5.

" Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
" Brigadier Cornwall-Jones,
" Commander Evershed.
" Mr. A.J. Newling.
" Mr. D.P.C. Blunt.
" Mr. W. Russell-Edwards.
" Mr. P.N.N. Symonds.
" Captain Maunsell.
" Captain D.H. Hall-Thompson.
" Mr. G.G.B. Dodds.
" Brigadier J.R.C. Hamilton.
" Brigadier L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
" Lt.Col. M.H. Charteris.
" Mr. B.F. Picknett.
" Mr. F.C. Rennie.
" Air Commodore Brook.
" Group Captain V.H.B. Roth.
" Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
" Mr. Bealey.
" Mr. J.C.S. Beith.
" Mr. J.C. Robertson.

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COLONIAL OFFICE TELEGRAM

55

2767 4 71

Cypher (O.T.P.)

INDEXED

24 FEB 1948

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 21st February, 1948.

R. 21st " " 10.40 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 428 Secret

Addressed to UKDEL, No. 449 (Washington please pass).

Repeated to the S. of S. Washington No. 110.

Your telegrams No. 107 and No. 113.

Advance party of United Nations Secretariat.

No (repeat no) objection to grant of visas.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM NEW YORK TO FOR HIGH OFFICES

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 565

D. 5.25 p.m. 18th February, 1948

18th February, 1948.

R.11.25 p.m. 18th February, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington Saving

MOST IMMEDIATE

E 2000

SECRET

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 19 Feb 1948
repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Martin, Colonial Office, from Burns.

Ryckmans has just told me that he had heard from a prominent Jew that Fitzgerald would be acceptable to all in Jerusalem as Governor. I told him that His Majesty's Government would not agree to appointment of a British Governor. He argued that as he was an Irishman an exception might be made and asked me to put proposal to my Government as he felt this would be most hopeful proposal yet made. Grateful earliest reply.

2. I have also been speaking to Sayre who suggested following two names

(a) Commander Jackson of Australia now with United Nations Secretariat.

(b) Drury of Canada. Grateful for comments on these two names.

3. All members of Trusteeship Council are dining to-morrow (Thursday) night [?gp.omitted] Sayre for private discussion regarding appointment of Governor and informal decision may possibly be taken on this occasion. Grateful therefore for earliest reply to this and to my telegram No. 517. Reply should reach me by 1800 hours to-morrow New York time.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 108.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for Mr. Martin and for repetition to Jerusalem.]

///

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Registry No.

19th February, 1948.

65

~~Top Secret~~
Secret.
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

F.O.,

194 .

BABB

Despatched 8.30 P.M. 19

Draft.

U.K. Del. New York

Most Immediate
Confidential

Telegram.

No.

Addressed to U.K. Del. New York No.
Tel no. 783 of Feb. 1948.
Repeated to Washington
Jerusalem

(Date) 19/2

Repeat to :-

Following for Colonial Secretary. Jerusalem.

Washington
Jerusalem

I have telegraphed separately texts of

Questions and Answers in House of Commons on Feb. 18th.

Bitz Burrows 19.2
Mr. Rees. Wilbain
Concur

2. I suggest you and members of Delegation follow the same line in any discussions you may have. It is most important that ^{we} you should

avoid being in any way committed or pressed to provide ^{any form of military or police} ~~special~~ protection ^(other than police volunteers) for Jerusalem after termination of the Mandate. This would be

~~Encl.~~
~~Code~~
Cypher.

entirely inconsistent with our whole policy and involve us in various extra commitments such as maintaining lines of communication, etc. I

Distribution :-

Political

suggest you might also make clear that apart from the general ^{danger of Arab-Jewish clashes} ~~question of partition which must in any case be discussed with reference to the whole country~~, the chief danger to the holy places

Copies to :-

in Jerusalem arises from disputes between rival Christian sects. It will be none of our business after the Mandate is laid down to keep the peace between these sects who should, ^{rather} ~~however~~, be encouraged to agree among themselves.

We/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

GENERAL - W.L. 1400/147 100,000 6147 A.S. E.W. LAL. Cp. 685

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Cypher/OTP

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From U.K. Delegation to United Nations)

No. 567. D. 7.48 p.m. 18th February 1948. R. 1.41 a.m. 19th February, 1948.
18th February, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

IMPORTANT.
CONFIDENTIAL.
BUILD.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 567 of 18th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Jerusalem.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Galsworthy.

At this morning's opening session of Trusteeship Council, after Laurentie had formally introduced Working Committee's Report, Iraq delegate read long prepared speech general purport being:-

(a) Decision to place Jerusalem under international régime was illegal.

(b) If Trusteeship Council nevertheless proceeds with statute Iraq is not (repeat not) prepared to take part in discussion of this item and Arab Governments will not (repeat not) be in any way bound by statute and reserve complete freedom of action in regard to it.

2. Iraq delegation then withdrew.

3. Thereupon Sayre made brief statement to effect that Trusteeship Council is acting in this manner under mandate of General Assembly consequently any question of Council's competence is matter for Assembly and not for Council itself. Sayre then proposed adjournment until 1400 hours tomorrow (Thursday). Burns proposed Council should continue its work in afternoon but Council agreed to Sayre's proposal. Council will start at tomorrow's meeting with consideration of Working Committee's report (document T/122) and will meet every afternoon at 1400 hours.

4. Secretary of State has asked Burns to impress on Council at tomorrow's meeting urgency of completing work on statute and selecting Governor.

5. Khalidy's speech included sharply worded attack on United States Government for its part in Palestine plan as a whole making inter alia points that:

19 FEB 1948
MAY (a) 1948

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THE DELEGATION OF THE
ARAB HIGHER COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE

4512 Empire State Bldg.
New York, 1, New York

24 FEB 1948

6th. February, 1948

His Excellency
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
The Foreign Office
London, United Kingdom.

INDEXED

Your Excellency:

I beg to forward to Your Excellency a copy of a memorandum submitted to the Secretary General of the United Nations explaining the reasons why the Arabs of Palestine do not recognise the validity of the recommendations to partition Palestine and reaffirming their determination to defend their country and resist in self-defense any attempt to mutilate it.

I beg to remain,
Your Excellency's
most obedient servant,

I. Nakhleh
Isa Nakhleh
Representative of the Arab
Higher Committee for
Palestine.

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c. General Carlow P. Romulo, Head of the Philippines delegation, on Wednesday made a very strong and courageous speech denouncing partition declaring: "At the behest of my Government, the Philippine Republic regrets its inability to approve of or participate in a solution of the Palestine problem that would involve the encouragement of political disunion and the enforcement of measures that would amount to the territorial mutilation of the Holy Land."

But on Saturday and in the absence of General Romulo there were two Philippines Delegates, each claiming different instructions - one to vote against partition as instructed by the head of his delegation, the other supporting partition according to fresh instructions from his Government. It is an established fact that strong pressure was put on the Philippines Government by the United States Government and, according to reliable information, the United States Government threatened the Philippines Government that it will not grant it the loan it is asking for if its delegation fails to support partition. In this way the Arabs lost the Philippines vote.

d. The Liberian delegate on the Ad Hoc Committee, Mrs. Ellen Scarborough, on the 25th of November abstained from voting although it was known that the Liberian Delegates intended to vote against partition in the Assembly. Thereupon the Jewish Agency and its pressure squads threatened her with actual physical violence which caused her to ask for police protection. On Saturday, the 29th of November, due to heavy pressure on the said Government, the Liberian Delegation voted for partition.

3. This undue pressure was not limited to the aforementioned delegations, but to every other delegation and its Government abroad. The following quotations from speeches of delegates prove this point:

a. Dr. Ernesto Dihigo of Cuba, in his speech in the Assembly on November 28th, said: "Having formed and given our view, we feel that we have to express our view through our vote, in the maintenance of consistency, in spite of pressure which has been brought to bear upon us."

b. Dr. Alfredo Lopez, Head of the Colombia Delegation, in his speech in the Assembly on the 28th of November, said: "Partition here may eventually be adopted, but we submit that reluctant votes, recruited with irrelevant eleventh hour appeals, will not improve its position in the opinion of the outside world."

c. Sir Zafrullah Khan, Head of the Pakistan Delegation, said: "Those who have no access to what is going on behind the scenes have known enough from the press to have a great fear in their hearts not only on this question -- because this is one individual question that has come up -- but that the deliberations and decisions of this great body in which the hopes of the world for the future are centered will not on crucial questions be left free."

"This is a solemn moment, solemn in the history of the world, in the history of this great -- let us hope, at least, great -- Organization. The United Nations is today on trial. The world is watching and will see how it acquits itself, again, perhaps, not so much from the point of view of whether partition is approved or not approved, but from the point of view whether any room is to be left for the exercise of honest judgment and conscience upon these important questions when they come up for decision."

Also Mr. Mohammed Ayub of the same Delegation said as follows: "We did succeed in persuading a sufficient number of our fellow representatives to see the right as we saw it... We entertain no sense of grievance against such of our friends and fellow representatives who have been compelled, under heavy pressure, to change sides and to cast their votes in support of a proposal, the justice and fairness of which do not commend themselves to them. Our feeling for them is one of sympathy that they should have been placed

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in a position of such embarrassment between their judgement and conscience on one side and the pressure to which they and their Governments were being subjected on the other."

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4. Such flagrant interference and pressure were not exercised by the United States Government only, but also by United States Senators. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation saw several telegrams out of many hundreds by United States Senators addressed to Delegates of different nations threatening, persuading and putting improper pressure on these Delegates to sway them in favor of partition.
5. The President of the General Assembly, Mr. Oswaldo Aranha, who being president should have been very impartial, was contrary to the traditions of presidency, influencing the Latin American countries to vote against the Arabs. A report of a speech by him appeared in the P.M. of New York in its issue of October 9th as follows:

"Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil, President of the General Assembly warned Latin American Delegates that failure on their part to support the United States-Soviet agreement on partition of Palestine would be a further heavy blow to the weakened United Nations. Aranha stressed the point at a recent Latin American caucus after several delegates had declared themselves impressed with Arab claims that United Nations lacked authority under the Charter to partition any state." Without making any comment on these juridical claims, Aranha is reported to have said: "I want to impress upon all of you that they are, at best, merely juridical."

Mr. Aranha was faced with this report in the press but he made no public denial.

6. It is an elementary rule of law and justice that any decision, agreement or act made or done under pressure, undue influence or duress, is null and void. The aforementioned facts prove how the partition recommendations were extorted from member states of the United Nations. The Arabs therefore consider them null and void and of no legal or moral force.
7. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation maintains that the recommendation of partition is also contrary to the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter. The Arab Delegations have fully dealt with this point in their addresses in the Ad Hoc Committee and in the Assembly. Their arguments were unanswerable, but power politics ignored all the logic, reason and justice of their arguments and Delegations were being led by undue pressure and influence to make recommendations repugnant to the Charter.
8. The United Nations has no jurisdiction to order or recommend the partition of Palestine. There is nothing in the Charter to warrant such authority, consequently the recommendation of partition is ultra vires and therefore null and void.
9. The Arab Delegations submitted proposals in the Ad Hoc Committee in order to refer the whole legal issue raised for a ruling by the International Court of Justice. The said proposals were voted upon by 20 for 21 against and 16 abstaining. The said proposals were never put to vote by the president in the Assembly. The United Nations is an International body entrusted with the task of enforcing peace and justice in international affairs. How could there be any confidence in such a body if it bluntly and unreasonably refuses to refer such a dispute to the International Court of Justice?
10. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation wishes to reaffirm here that the Arabs of Palestine cannot recognise the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate of Palestine or any situation arising or derived therefrom. They consider that imposing international alien immigrants on their country by force is nothing but an act of aggression and invasion, whether made by Jews themselves, through Great Britain, or by the United Nations. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation therefore expects that the duty of the United Nations is to remove the said aggression and stop that invasion. The creation of any Jewish state in an Arab territory is more than invasion or aggression; it is something with no precedent in history. It is an act of wiping out the existence of an Arab country, violating its in-

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tegrity, subjecting its land and people to foreign Jewish domination.

11. In its statement to the Ad Hoc Committee on the 29th of September, our Delegation left no doubt on the Arab reactions: "The Arabs of Palestine are, therefore, solidly determined to oppose, with all the means at their disposal, any scheme that provides for the dissection, segregation or partition of their tiny country, or that gives to a minority, on the ground of creed, special and preferential rights or status. They will oppose such schemes, with the same zeal and with the same sacrifice that any other people would do under the same circumstances. We are alive to the fact that if they so desire, big powers could crush, by brute force, such opposition. But this realisation will not deter us from drenching the soil of our beloved country with the last drop of our blood in the lawful defense of all and every inch of it." These solemn words were dismissed by the Zionists and the powers supporting them as idle threats. The events in Palestine since the end of November are only the beginning of this tragedy. Already over 1000 persons have been killed and over 2000 injured.

12. The Zionists and their friends are building a smoke screen of propaganda to convince the world that if the partition plan is not implemented by force the prestige of the United Nations is at stake. Secret maneuvers are being carried out to lead the Security Council to send an international force to Palestine to crush Arab resistance. Our Delegation solemnly declares that it is the unflinching determination of every Arab in Palestine to defend his country against any power or group of powers or any force going to Palestine to partition the country. The Arabs are in duty and honour bound to defend their country to the last man. The presumed mission of an international force which is to be sent to Palestine can only be to wipe out the Arabs, blow up their dwellings and uproot them from their land.

History will then record that the United Nations, which was meant to be an instrument of peace and justice, is being used as an instrument of war and aggression.

13. In conclusion, the Arab Higher Committee Delegation wishes to stress the following:

a. The Arabs of Palestine will never recognise the validity of the extorted partition recommendations or the authority of the United Nations to make them.

b. The Arabs of Palestine consider that any attempt by the Jews or any power or group of powers to establish a Jewish state in Arab territory is an act of aggression which will be resisted in self-defense by force.

c. It is very unwise and fruitless to ask any commission to proceed to Palestine because not a single Arab will cooperate with the said Commission.

d. The United Nations or its Commission should not be misled to believe that its efforts in the partition plan will meet with any success. It will be far better for the exlipped prestige of this organization not to start on this adventure.

e. The United Nations prestige will be better served by abandoning, not enforcing such an injustice.

f. The determination of every Arab in Palestine is to oppose in every way the partition of that country.

g. The Arabs of Palestine made a solemn declaration before the United Nations, before God and history, that they will never submit or yield to any power going to Palestine to enforce partition.

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the greatest sacrifices.

It was therefore perfectly natural that the Haitian Government did not remain indifferent to the fate of the Jewish peoples throughout the world and cooperated in the task which constitutes the solution of a problem on which depends the future of a group, the remaining survivors of the massacre of six millions persons.

The Haitian Government was desirous of thus recalling the main lines of its policy and if it congratulates the Arab Higher Committee for its physiognomical gifts and for the importance which it attaches to the physical expressions of opinions, which could only be personal, it affirms on the other hand that it has remained consistent both in its present moral obligations as with the historical necessities of the past, in giving its approval and its collaboration to a cause supported by the United Nations.

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En Clair
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DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 796
20th February, 1948

D: 7.12 p.m. 20th February, 1948

Repeated to: Washington No. 2057
Jerusalem

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York
telegram No. 796 of 20th February repeated for information
to Washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 587.

Jerusalem will no doubt inform you if there are any
additions to the list in Chapter 24 of the Survey

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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Cypher/OTF

DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.
(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 577
19th February, 1948.

D: 1.25 p.m. 19th February, 1948

: 6.40 p.m. 19th February, 1948.

MOST IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

2432

Addressed to Highcom Jerusalem telegram No. 113 of 19th February. Repeated to Foreign Office (Colonial Office) and Washington Saving.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

[Begins].

My telegram No. 107.

Advance Party of Commission Secretariat.

I have just been informed by telephone that the plans of the Secretariat advance party have been changed.

2. It has now been decided that the party of six referred to in telegram under reference will leave for the United Kingdom on Sunday 22nd February. Azcarate, who is leading the party, proposes to make contact with the Colonial Office and expects to leave for Palestine so as to arrive there, probably by F.L.M. on Sunday 29th February or Monday 1st March.

3. Commission have asked whether one or two cars can be placed at the disposal of this party.

4. A press report here suggests that arrangements have been made to accommodate this party in the King David Hotel. Should be grateful for information as to whether this is in fact the case or what alternative arrangements are contemplated.

5. Commission express their regret for any inconvenience caused by this change of plan.

Please pass most immediate to Jerusalem and Colonial Office.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for information and for repetition to Jerusalem].

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (G.T.P.)

E 2432 / 4 / 71

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 25th February 1948.
R. 25th " " 22.10 hrs.

INDEXED

IMMEDIATE

No. 469 Secret.

Your telegram No. 713.

Accommodation proposed for the Commission staff in Zone B opposite King David Hotel is now being evacuated by the Army but it has so far proved impossible to provide domestic staff. It had been hoped that Jewish staff would be available, but in view of recent incidents in Jerusalem it will now be difficult to persuade any to enter this area. We pointed out in our telegram No. 345 that this party would require their own domestic staff and our advice to send one officer in advance has not been taken. In these circumstances if they arrive on Sunday they will probably find themselves without staff.

2. We shall continue to do our best to help and I hope that when they see things for themselves here they will appreciate the difficulties. If on the other hand they wish to make their own arrangements we cannot be responsible for their security and they should be warned that Arabs have declared their intention of attacking them.

3. Question of cars will be dealt with on arrival.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office Mr. H. Beelley.

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86

E 2470

1948

21 FEB 1948

Registry Number *E2470/4/81*
TELEGRAM FROM
 No. *11421*
 Dated *New York*
 Received in Registry *593*
20 Feb
21 -

All the information, telephone party.
Refer to 788. Note of arrival of Lyell's should
have been 22 Feb 1948, the fact of 118 for
change of 118 (E2472/4/21)
Note of receipt Lyell's from London for Lyell's
will not now be paid will only have been
London.

Last Paper.

2436

(Minutes)

References.

PWC
Tele no 713 of 24 Feb
from 50 Palestine from C.O. inus/or

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J.R. Egan
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W.B. 11
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(How disposed of.)

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akers M15
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Adams
G.M.
Feb 23

tel. Paris 516
27/2

8. Walkeran 80
mar/or

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

ONE 1789
[Signature]
20/4/48

Next Paper.

2471

30471 F.O.P

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Cypher/CIP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

2470

(From U.A. Delegation to the United Nations).

No. 996. D. 1. 41 p.m. 20th February, 1948. 21 FEB 1948
20th February, 1948. R. 7.00 p.m. 20th February, 1948.
Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

IMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 996 of 20th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram 788. [sic].

Secretariat advance party.

Date of arrival at Lydda should have read Sunday 22nd February but as you will have seen from my subsequent telegram to Jerusalem No. 115 plans have now been changed.

2. Date of party's departure from London for Lydda will not (repeat not) now be fixed until party have reached London.

Please pass to C.O. and repeat immediate to Jerusalem via C.O. as my telegram No. 115.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Registry
No. E

H. B.

Draft.

PARIS.

Telegram.

No. 516

(Date) Feb. 27

Repeat to :-

~~XXXXXX~~

Cypher.

Distribution :-

Files.

Copies to :-

Mr. Mathison, C.O.

CYPHER

No. 386
February, 1948.
Despatched 11 M.

~~XXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXX~~
Confidential.
~~XXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXX~~

~~IMMEDIATE~~
CONFIDENTIAL.

Following for Coulson from Beeley.
An advance party of the Secretariat of the United Nations Palestine Commission, headed by Azcarate, will be in Paris tomorrow en route for Palestine. Their time of departure is at present uncertain, and they may ask you to communicate either with us or with Jerusalem on this subject. As their movements should be kept as secret as possible for security reasons, please send any telegram in cypher.

[Copies sent to Mr. Mathison] 7-13-27/2

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89
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FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

No. 516

D. 10.20 p.m. 27th February, 1948

27th February, 1948

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Following for Coulson from Beeley.

An advance party of the Secretariat of the United Nations Palestine Commission, headed by Azcarate will be in Paris tomorrow en route for Palestine. Their time of departure is at present uncertain, and they may ask you to communicate either with us or with Jerusalem on this subject. As their movements should be kept as secret as possible for security reasons, please send any telegram in cypher.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

E 470 4 31

MAR 1948

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 24th February, 1948. 21.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 713 Secret.

My telegram No. 702.

United Nations party have again found it necessary to change their plans and now propose to travel from Paris to Lydda by Air France line arriving Sunday morning 0940 hours. Please telegraph as soon as possible whether this is convenient.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Easley.

2.15
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In clair

DEPARTMENTAL. E

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

2477

(From U.K. Delegation to United Nations).

No. 595.

D. 2.15 p.m. 20th February, 1948.
R. 9.10 p.m. 20th February, 1948.

20th February, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem and Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE.

Addressed to F.O. telegram No. 595 of February 20th, repeated to Jerusalem and Washington Saving.

Following for Martin, Colonial Office from Fletcher-Cooke. [Begins].

Reference sub paragraph 4 of Section (1) municipalities and local councils of paragraph 2 of note on matter to be discussed with Commission submitted to them on 21st January.

Commission have already asked to see draft legislation authorising municipal and local councils to collect urban property tax in 1948/49 and if you see no objection I propose to furnish Commission with copies of draft legislation and to inform them of substance of Jerusalem telegram Saving of 10th February to you.

2. Commission have of course already received copies of draft bill amending municipal corporations ordinance.

3. Grateful for earliest reply.

Please repeat to Jerusalem immediate as my telegram No. 116.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Branch C.O. for repetition to Jerusalem, and to C.O. for Martin.]

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En Clair 2477 DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 607. D. 9.55 p.m. 20th February, 1948.

20th February, 1948. R. 3.04 a.m. 21st February, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

IMPORTANT.

Addressed to Foreign Office (for C.O.)

No. 607 of 20th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram No. 795.

Substance of Jerusalem telegram No. 387 to you was conveyed to Commission on 18th February with a request that if the Commission saw no objection, it should be given the same publicity as the original statement.

Please repeat Important to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 121.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

333

21 FEB 1948
LONDON

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SECRET

The Church House,
St. Smith Street,
London, S.W. 1.

Pw
98

February 19, 1946.

My Reference 75872/159/2/1.

Your Reference _____

My dear Bailey, *2477 4 71*

You will have seen telegram No. 387 Secret of the 16th February from the High Commissioner for Palestine containing a corrective to his earlier statement, circulated to the Commission by our Delegation, that a large degree of administrative control was being exercised by Arab invaders in Samaria. The telegram is addressed to our Secretary of State and para. 5 suggests certain action with the usual formula "if you see no objection". Perhaps it might be as well to send a telegram as in draft to UNRWA.

May I assume that you are taking the action necessary in response to para. 2 of New York telegram to Foreign Office No. 522, where our Delegation ask for information regarding approaches made by our representatives to Arab governments on the incursions into Palestine?

Tel. no. 1

Yours ever,
Edgar Natheson
(W.A.C. Natheson)

H. DIBBLEY, Esq., J.B.L.

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Registry
No. *E*

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Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.
Important.

Draft.

Sir A. Adogan,
New York.

Telegram.

No. *795*
(Date) *Feb 20th*

Repeat to:-

~~Jerusalem;~~
~~Washington.~~ *2056*

En Clair.
Code.
Cypher.

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F.O.,

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Despatched *7 21 AM.*

Important

Address to UK Delegation New York.
Telegram no. 795 of 20/2, repeated for
information to Washington and Jerusalem
Jerusalem telegram no. 307 to the

Secretary of State for the Colonies
repeated to you no. 417. Information
regarding Arab bands, I assume that you have
taken action as suggested in para. 5.

H.B. 207
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En Clair
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DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK
(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 795. D: 7.23 p.m. 20th February, 1948.
20th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,
Washington No. 2,056.

IMPORTANT

Addressed to U.K. Delegation New York telegram No. 795 of 20th February repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No. 387 to the Secretary of State for the Colonies repeated to you No. 417. I assume that you have taken action as suggested in paragraph 5.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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to the Commission designating a shadow Jewish Council in advance and to the Palestine Government entering into negotiations with it. Secretary of State replied that the Mandatory power could only negotiate with the Commission as their successor in Palestine. Any question of direct discussion with a shadow Jewish Council regarding the responsibilities involved in certain services which might be assigned to that Council raised difficult problems of implementation and he would give the Commission a considered reply later which would be as helpful as he could make it.

5. A number of questions centred round the provision in Part 1 B (2) of the Assembly's plan that the Mandatory power shall to the fullest possible extent co-ordinate its withdrawal plans with the plans of the Commission to take over and administer evacuated areas. Commission obviously had in mind co-ordination of military withdrawal plans with their own security requirements after 15th May. Secretary of State made it clear that after 15th May British forces would be concerned solely with their own withdrawal and not with general security of Palestine. The directive governing the military withdrawal would shortly be communicated to the Commission who would then be in a position to plan accordingly. On hearing this Chairman said that Commission must assume that Mandatory power were unable to fulfil provision of General Assembly resolution mentioned above.

6. Atmosphere of meeting was friendly. Secretary of State suggested that progress of discussions with Delegation would be facilitated if in future procedure could be less formal.

Foreign Office please pass important to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 119.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Branch, Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem.]

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23 FEB 1948
FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 610

D. 12.10 p.m. 21st February 1948

R. 5.45 p.m. 21st February 1948

21st February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE.
CONFIDENTIAL.
BUILD

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 610 of
February 21st repeated for information to Jerusalem
and Saving to Washington.

Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Sir
A. Burns.

At dinner on 19th February attended by all members
of Trusteeship Council (except Mexican Costarican and
Iraqi Delegates) and by Bunche, appointment of Governor
of Jerusalem was discussed very freely. Shortly
beforehand I had seen Foreign Office telegram No. 783.

2. I was pressed to withdraw objection to appointment of
United Kingdom national and it was even suggested that no
country was able to or should veto appointment of one of
its own nationals. To this I replied that a man who
accepted this appointment contrary to wishes of his own
Government was unlikely to be suitable for responsible post.
Matter was then dropped.

3. After long discussion following eight persons were
listed as being worthy of consideration:-

- (a) Madaliar of India.
- (b) Stucki
- (c) Rappard of Switzerland
- (a) Lange, Foreign Minister of Norway
- (e) Casey of Australia
- (f) Jackson of Australia
- (g) Drury of Canada
- (h) Ngeland, High Commissioner in London for South
Africa.

4. I had already spoken privately to various members

/regarding....

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regarding difficulties in case of Dominion names generally and particularly regarding Jackson and Drury. Sayre confirmed that Canadian Government are against appointment of a Canadian citizen, but offered himself, if Drury were selected, to go to Canada to try to persuade Mackenzie King to withdraw his objection. Pearson, whom we have consulted, has replied that Drury has not the necessary experience or standing to be considered for the appointment, and that for this and other reasons, Canadian Government would prefer not to receive any request to release him.

5. Each delegate was asked to telegraph names in paragraph 5 above to his Government for their views, or for any additional suggestions, and it was decided that we should meet again on morning of February 25th to discuss results. It was emphasised that whilst views of Governments would be carefully considered they would not (repeat not) be binding on Trusteeship Council.

6. It is proposed that final list should be agreed on February 25th and that President of Trusteeship Council should then ascertain privately whether persons on final list were available and willing to accept offer if made. Final decision would then be taken. Form in which private approach should be made by President was not (repeat not) finally agreed.

7. I have of course noted views in Foreign Office telegram No. 783 and will act accordingly. If you have any views on fresh names now being considered (or any other comments) I should be glad to have them by 0900 hours New York time on February 25th.

8. At end of meeting Bunche announced that Palestine Commission was not (repeat not) in favour of early selection of Governor, and did not think appointment should be made until June. Members of Trusteeship Council were unanimous that very early appointment should be made, and we propose to arrange private (repeat private) meeting with Commission to try to convince them that this is necessary.

9. It was provisionally agreed that salary (including allowances) of Governor should be between \$20,000 and \$25,000 per annum.

Please repeat to Jerusalem as my telegram No.123.

[Copy sent to Colonial Office for addressee and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

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~~Confidential~~

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Draft. RL L

UK RL: New York
No. 870

Date: Feb. 24

Rept: Jerusalem
Washington (copy)
1200

Addressed to New York telegram No 870.

of February 24th repeated for information
to Jerusalem and Savings to Washington.

Your telegram No 610: Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Burns from Martin.

Our views on fresh names proposed
are as follows:

(a) RAPPARD, though an eminent
academic personality, may not prove a
strong administrator. ^{Also he} ~~he~~ was formerly
Director of the Mandates Section of the
League of Nations Secretariat and this
concernism may colour his outlook.

(b) LANGE is an educationalist
whose political eminence is only recent.
A cultivated man of integrity and an
anti-communist, but lacks administrative
experience and has the reputation of
always seeing both sides of a question.
Was, and probably still is, a pacifist.

(c) EGELAND: objections to Dominicus
candidate are reinforced in his case

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Cypher

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by the notorious partiality of his
government on the Palestine issue.
Also he is not thought to be personally
very well qualified for such an
appointment.

[Copy sent to C.O. for
- repetition to Jerusalem] D.B. 24/2

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